

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/764,106

Examiner

EDMUND H. LEE

Applicant(s)

ITO ET AL.

Art Unit

1732

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/22/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 28-44 (RENUMBERED AS 1-17).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 19 January 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 03222004.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EDMUND H. LEE
Primary Examiner
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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ira Schultz on 3/22/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification:

Pg 1, ln 5: the phrase --no US Patent no. 6,287,406,-- has been inserted after "January 14, 1999".

In the claims:

Claims 8-14 and 16-27 have been canceled.

Please insert the following new claims 28-44:

--28. A method of manufacturing a panel unit having a curved panel and a directly extruded molding, comprising:

moving either one of the curved panel and an extrusion molding die with respect to the other of the curved panel and the extrusion molding die so that a peripheral edge of the curved panel moves relative to an extrusion port of the extrusion molding die and simultaneously extruding a resin molding material directly onto the peripheral edge of the curved panel;

while extruding the molding material, maintaining an angle between the peripheral edge of the curved panel and the extrusion port constant during the relative movement between the curved panel and the extrusion port,

stopping the extrusion of the molding material when the directly extruded molding is formed along almost the entire peripheral edge of the curved panel, and

eliminating an irregular portion of the directly extruded molding, wherein a gap is formed between a first and second terminal end of the directly extruded molding that exposes a portion of the peripheral edge of the curved panel.

29. A method as in claim 28, wherein the extruding step further comprises moving the peripheral edge of the curved panel along a predetermined path relative to the extrusion port, wherein the directly extruded molding has a predetermined external dimension, even if the external dimension of the curved panel varies from an ideal external dimension.

30. A method as in claim 28, further comprising continuously moving the peripheral edge of the curved panel relative to the extrusion port of the extrusion molding and simultaneously bonding the molding material to the peripheral edge of the curved panel.

31. A method as in claim 28, further comprising connecting the first and second terminal ends of the directly extruded molding with an additional molding.

32. A method as in claim 28, further comprising mounting an additional molding piece in the gap, wherein the directly extruded molding and additional molding piece together extend around the entire peripheral edge including four corners of the curved panel.

33. A method as in claim 28, wherein the curved panel is an automobile window glass.

34. A method as in claim 33, further comprising continuously moving the peripheral edge of the automobile window glass relative to the extrusion port of the extrusion molding and simultaneously bonding the molding material to the peripheral edge of the automobile window glass.

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35. A method as in claim 34, further comprising mounting an additional molding piece in the gap, wherein the directly extruded molding and additional molding piece together extend around the entire peripheral edge and including four corners of the automobile window glass.

36. A method as in claim 28, wherein the peripheral edge of the curved panel is disposed proximally to the extrusion port during the extrusion molding step.

37. A method as in claim 36, wherein the peripheral edge of the curved panel is inserted into the extrusion port during the extrusion molding step.

38. A method as in claim 37, wherein the curved panel is an automobile window glass.

39. A method as in claim 38, further comprising continuously moving the peripheral edge of the automobile window glass relative to the extrusion port of the extrusion molding and simultaneously bonding the molding material to the peripheral edge of the automobile window glass.

40. A method as in claim 39, further comprising mounting an additional molding piece in the gap, wherein the directly extruded molding and additional molding piece together extend around the entire peripheral edge and four corners of the automobile window glass.

41. A method as in claim 28, wherein the extrusion port is fixed in position and the peripheral edge of the curved panel moves with respect to the extrusion port.

42. A method as in claim 41, wherein the peripheral edge of the curved panel is disposed proximally to the extrusion port during the extrusion molding step.

43. A method as in claim 42, wherein the peripheral edge of the curved panel is inserted into the extrusion port during the extrusion molding step.

43. A method of manufacturing a panel unit including a curved window glass panel, and a frame mounted on a peripheral edge of the curved window glass panel, comprising:

providing a molding die having an extrusion port for extruding a molding material to form the frame, wherein the extrusion port has an inner circumferential surface that corresponds to an outer cross section of the frame;

disposing the peripheral edge of the curved window glass panel proximally with respect to the extrusion port in order to form a molding space defined by the peripheral edge of the curved window glass panel and the inner circumferential surface of the extrusion port, wherein the molding space corresponds to the cross section of the frame;

extruding the molding material into the molding space;

controllably maintaining an angle between the peripheral edge of the curved window glass panel and the molding die constant;

continuously moving either one of the curved window glass panel and the molding die with respect to the other of the curved window glass panel and the molding die in order to continuously extrude the molding material along the peripheral edge of the curved window glass panel, thereby forming a directly extruded molding,

stopping the extrusion of the molding material when the directly extruded molding is formed along almost the entire peripheral edge of the curved window glass panel, and

eliminating an irregular portion of the directly extruded molding, wherein a gap is formed between a first and second terminal end of the directly extruded molding that exposes a portion of the peripheral edge of the curved window glass panel.

44. A method as defined in claim 43, wherein the peripheral edge of the window glass panel moves along a predetermined orbital path with respect to the molding die, and wherein the panel unit has a predetermined external dimension that does not depend upon the external dimension of the panel.--

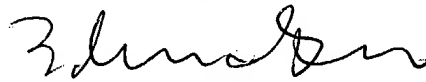
2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to EDMUND H. LEE whose telephone number is 571.272.1204. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY-THURSDAY FROM 9AM-4PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Colaianni can be reached on 571.272.1196. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

EHL

EDMUND H. LEE
Primary Examiner
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3/22/04